From the Principal’s Desk…

Dear Parents/Caregivers

I am at the Principal Conference all week. Chanelle Goodwin is in charge while I am away. Chanelle has the authority of the principal position during this period. I believe we will have a week of learning and ‘no drama’ as our mantra says.

The car park at the rear of the school is designated a pedestrian and teacher car park area. Unfortunately, it cannot be used as a student drop off. Please drop students off at the front or rear curb side, thanks.

I have a new office and the 9/10/Dist Ed have a new learning area. Please come and visit these new locales within the school. The library has been moved to classrooms. In the last P & C meeting the proposal was put forward and supported along the lines of

♦ A fantastic opportunity to have a library in your child’s classroom
♦ Having children borrow books to take home again
♦ This is about maximising the resources in the school
♦ The library gets used only 15 minutes a week on average. Sometimes 30 minutes. This is a massive waste of books and a classroom and is unacceptable
♦ Non-fiction research is done online. Students who require non-fiction books will be able to access the books in the classroom
♦ We are creating an area for 9/10 and distant learning and for our curriculum coordinator an office
♦ We are well on the way to transitioning to e-learning and digital books
♦ We are an e-learning school
♦ The future is in e-learning and digital not print
♦ The 9/10 students are energised about having an area
♦ All hours in a classroom are accounted for in subject areas and no time is allocated to teachers to go to the library
♦ We still have in place and will action next term students joining the local and state library
♦ The move will be photo-documented to ensure grant money is used for its intended purpose of library books being used and borrowed

What would happen if the library stayed the same:
♦ A classroom would not be used over 95% of the week
♦ Books would be continued to be borrowed at rate that isn’t quantifiable it would be so low

Any concerns or for further information please come and see me, thanks.

Curriculum

Teachers completed their planning meeting with Penny Rogers last week. This is an in-depth opportunity to ensure your child has a continuous learning and improvement journey Prep to year 10 at Alpha State School. In the meeting teachers go through their planning and assessment with Penny, we discuss whole school approaches and confirm that our practices meet a high standard. Each teacher values and engages really well with this process.

Teachers also had a data meeting with me last week. This checks, monitors and allows feedback on each child’s progress and results in the school. We track our students weekly in numeracy and literacy, as well as, through our 5 week units of work. Once again, there was a lot to celebrate with the learning and results journey of students in our school and the work
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teachers undertake to achieve those gains.

**Behaviour expectations**
We had an excellent week in terms of behaviour - in class, at transitions and in the playground. Thanks, to our students for making the effort to engage in school life so well!

We have a new award given at assembly. This is an award for students demonstrating grit. To the students we define grit as the ability to accept challenges and persist mentally and physically to achieve goals and success.

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter. Please see me for any good news stories or items you would like to discuss.

The school contact details are
**Phone:** 4987 0888
**Pete’s email:** pstan24@eq.edu.au
**Pete Stansfield mobile:** 0419 982 413
**School mobile:** 0427 158 456

Kind regards
**Pete Stansfield**

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**High School Hi-Jinx**
Well the weeks sure do seem to go by quickly. Just another busy week in the new 9-10 room.

Last week I introduced the students to a new approach to learning called Whole Brain Training. I am explaining to the students that I am teaching them to become lean, mean learning machines. Really it is an extension of the Explicit Instruction method of teaching that we have been engaged in over the past 2 years. I am excited to be teaching this way and from the brief exposure that the your child has had this week they seem happy to come along on this new journey in their learning. Basically this method requires the students to be enthusiastic and engaged in their own learning and teach each other the concepts that I have taught them. Stay tuned for further updates on this process.

Camp forms – If you have not already done so can you please sign and return the CQ Uni camp forms so we can finalise numbers attending and book night activities.

Another reminder that students have mandated homework due each week:
+ 100 minutes on Core 5
+ 10-15 activities on Matholia
+ Grammar worksheet on English Rules.

These are all due by Friday morning each week.

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**YR 7-8 CQ UNI Camp**
Just a quick reminder that camp is on Monday 2nd June - bus departing at 7.30 am from the back of the school. Students also need to pack linen (Sheets, towels blanket/sleeping bag – please no swags).

Please also pay the $33.50 cost so that your child can participate in the nightly activities. If you are having any difficulties paying this amount please contact me to make alternative arrangements so you child doesn't miss out.

Below is the program your child will be doing whilst on camp.

**Springsure and Alpha Hero’s Journey 2014 - Hero’s Journey Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Monday 2 June 2014</strong></th>
<th><strong>Tuesday 3 June 2014</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>7:30–8.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depart Alpha</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depart Springsure</td>
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<td>4.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrive at Coolwaters</td>
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<td>4.30-5.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allocation of room</td>
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<td>5.30-6.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner</td>
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<td>6.30-7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drive to Rockhampton</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.00-9.30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowling, Laser tag and Dodgems</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30-10.00 pm</td>
<td>Lights Out</td>
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Alpha State School Values - Respect, Responsibility, Honesty
Seven/Eight Classroom

Another week down and we are on the home stretch – only five weeks to go! Plenty of work still to be done though.

This week in English we are continuing to look at Memoirs and how to turn a simple memory into something extraordinary using a variety of different techniques. In Maths we are looking at shapes; their faces, edges and vertices and different types of angles – corresponding, alternate and co-interior. Ask the students which letters of the alphabet make the different angles.

For the majority of the Year 7/8 class they are off to visit the University in Rockhampton next week where they will be acting out the plays they wrote four weeks ago and filming them. They should have a terrific time and I look forward to hearing all about it when they return and seeing the completed videos later on in the year. For those who aren’t attending it will be school as usual with normal classes still operating.☺

Keep smiling.
Mrs Goodwin

DRAMA!

Students have been doing an exceptional job this term of stepping out of their comfort zones and exploring elements of drama such as language, space and mood. For drama assessments this term students will incorporate the use of our new iPads, using apps and programs to film, edit and enhance their work using the latest technology.

Miss Gray

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

Cross Country has finally come and gone again for another year. It was a great day for the families, teachers and definitely the students. The students showed great determination and ran their hardest for their respected houses. Thank you to all parents, teachers and other community members for helping out on the day.

Nick Lingard

Results

Inter-House Shield
Yungi
Kabi
Every child has a good day every day. | Every child matters every day.

Inter-School Shield
Yungi
Jericho
Kabi

Age Champions
15 Girls: Chloe Dixon
15 Boys: Jordan Howard
14 Girls: Paige Stansfield
14 Boys: Baily Green
13 Girls: Pip McGuire
12 Girls: Giaan Green
12 Boys: Nathan Coughy
11 Girls: Chloe Trilford
11 Boys: Clay Gleeson
10 Girls: Gemma Howard
10 Boys: Myles Otto

Miss Clarke

P & C News
A note for parents -
Please be aware that you’re not allowed to park in the school staff car park during drop off and pick up times to and from school. This issue was raised at our last P & C meeting.

Cathy Goodwin
P & C Secretary

EMERALD ATHLETICS CH GAMES
Nominations are now open for Emerald Athletics C.H. Games - Track and Field Carnival at Marist College Oval on 21st/22nd June 2014.

Nomination forms available on website www.emeraldathletics.org.au or contact Wayne Gakowski 4982 0746 for further details.

Nominations close 6th June 2014.
Weapons Licencing and Firearm Safety
We frequently receive inquiries into firearms safety and storage requirements. Attached is a brochure produced by the Weapons Licencing Branch that provides a quick guide to the obligations that firearm owners have. For more specific inquiries Weapons Licencing Branch can be contacted on 3015 7777 or you can research weapons licencing matters via the Queensland Police Service web site. The Weapons Act and Weapons Regulations are also available for viewing via the web site.

The Alpha Police Station counter hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8.00 am and 12.00 pm when possible. There will always be exceptions to this such as emergency callouts and other operational policing demands (it may be prudent to phone in advance to make sure we are in the office).

Take care
Mick Lingard & Jason Robertson
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